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update

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news and events

Windhoek. After more than 100 years of colonial control and a 25-year liberation struggle, Namibia's full independence from South Africa will be celebrated on 21st March. Present for the ceremonies in the capital will be UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, and UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III. Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar will officially open the Windhoek offices housing United Nations agencies, including UNDP, which is launching a $10.6 million two-year technical assistance programme.

New York. "Urbanization in Developing Countries" is the subject of a special senior staff briefing on 19-20 March at UNDP headquarters. Organized by the Division of Personnel and the Technical Advisory Division, the seminar is designed to sensitize senior management to the challenges of rapid urbanization --including financial, employment, social services, public management and private sector issues. The briefing is a follow-up to the release in May 1989 of UNDP's Programme Advisory Note on "Urban Transition in Developing Countries." Professor John Friedman of the University of California in Los Angeles and Dr. Dennis Rondinelli of the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina are the main speakers.

La Paz. Until recently, Bolivia's utilization of foreign assistance for development was hampered by red tape, delays, cumbersome procedures and waste. The pipeline of undisbursed aid commitments to the government had ballooned to nearly US$1 billion by the end of 1987. Since early 1988, however, UNDP's Office for Project Services (OPS) has been assisting the Bolivian public sector in the procurement of goods and services financed by international aid agencies and the government itself. According to Project Co-ordinator Jorge Claro, this unique operation has grown by leaps and bounds to the point where OPS is the largest facilitator of procurement services in the country. The results are speedy processing of bids with greater competition and increased savings.

By the end of 1989, OPS was assisting in over 200 procurement solicitations valued at $515 million. The increased efficiency has saved the government an estimated $66 million. This achievement has prompted Bolivian authorities to request a two-year extension of OPS activities. Training of Bolivians should allow the entire operation to be handed over to national staff at the end of that period.

New York. In a global campaign to involve developing countries in their own environmental future, UNDP is using its 113 field offices around the world to build a new Sustainable Development Network. The Network -- already known as SDN for short -- will channel technical information on the environment aimed at reinforcing environmentally sound development. It will also enhance the capacity of developing countries to acquire new environmental technologies -- from waste management to reforestation -- and to participate in the preparations for the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Brazil. In his remarks before the first preparatory committee meeting on 5 March, the newly-appointed Secretary-General for the Conference, Maurice Strong, praised the establishment of the SDN as a key initiative designed to enable developing countries "to deal more effectively with their own needs for sustainable development."

Cairo. Thirty top Arab leaders will join representatives from UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe (RBASE) for a special three-day seminar on "Sustainable Development in the 1990s: UNDP Role in the Arab Region" from 17-19 March. The objective is to review a wide range of development issues -- from finance and technology to the problems of youth -- and pinpoint directions for UNDP/RBASE in the next decade. Egypt's Prime Minister and Jordan's Crown Prince will deliver the opening addresses.

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(all approvals subject to modification; sums quoted in US dollars)

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Ghana. The Central Region southwest of Accra lags far behind other regions of the country. Its economy remains largely dependent on subsistence agriculture and small-scale coastal fishing. In an effort to stimulate economic growth, this first phase project is supporting an integrated programme for the Central Region designed to promote tourism, small enterprise development, natural resource conservation and expansion of urban sanitation services. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,400,460 for experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by the government and implemented by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning/Central Region Development Commission. (GHA/88/014)

Honduras. UNDP's Management Development Programme will help strengthen the public sector in order to implement critical economic reforms. It will introduce better organizational methods and improve the capabilities of government personnel in macro-economic policies and development planning. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,000,000 for experts, training and equipment. Government cost-sharing: $1,300,000. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services (OPS) and implemented by the Ministry of Planning and Budget. (HON/90/501)

Papua New Guinea. Indiscriminate logging is causing serious environmental degradation in some parts of the country. An action plan aimed at efficient management of the country's tropical forests to achieve sustainable development was prepared in an earlier phase with UNDP technical support. This project will help carry out the plan through assistance in mobilizing donor support and by introducing new forestry policies and legislation. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,300,000 for experts, training and equipment. Executed by the World Bank and implemented by the Department of Forests. (PNG/89/017)

United Republic of Tanzania. UNDP and the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) are supporting the reconstruction of a network of feeder roads around Zanzibar town to ease movement of goods and services as well as to open rural areas to economic development. The World Food Programme is supplying food for local staff as part of a broader food-for-work programme. Proposed UNCDF contribution: $4,255,000 for construction equipment and materials. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,088,000 for a subcontract. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Roads Department. (URT/87/C05)

United Republic of Tanzania. The UN Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE) is helping to probe for industrial grade gold deposits in the Geita and Nzega areas, south of Lake Victoria, in order to attract investors and stimulate the mining industry. Proposed UNRFNRE contribution: $1,670,000, half of which will be co-financed by the Soviet Union, for a geologist, subcontracts and drilling equipment. Executed by UNRFNRE. (URT/88/N01)

14 February 1990

Bangladesh. In support of a decentralization effort, UNDP will strengthen the abilities of local governments or *upazilas* (sub-districts) to design and carry out infrastructure projects aimed at promoting rural growth. Mapping and surveying of 400 *upazilas* will be carried out through satellite imagery, and training programmes will be upgraded. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,794,000 for experts, subcontracts, equipment and training. Executed by the International Labour Organisation and implemented by the Local Government Engineering Bureau. (BGD/89/041)

Burkina Faso. This third phase project supported by the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) aims at conserving fuelwood and stemming deforestation by helping to promote the use of efficient cooking stoves. Over 300 artisans and 35,000 women will benefit from training programmes designed to improve cooking stoves and to promote agro-forestry activities. Technical assistance will be provided under a management service agreement funded by a grant from the Swedish Government. Proposed UNSO budget: $2,416,400 for consultants, training, equipment and logistical support. Executed

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by the government and implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. (BKF/89/X03)

Burkina Faso. UNSO is supporting another afforestation initiative through this third-phase project which strives to integrate a community-based reforestation programme in the Provinces of Boulkiemdé and Sangujé. The project will strengthen rural extension services through training in improved land-use management and new agro-forestry activities. Proposed UNSO contribution: $2,382,670 for experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by the government and implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Provincial Directorate of Environment and Tourism in Koudougou. (BKF/89/X04)

Burundi. Expanding on a previous phase, agronomists and engineers will receive continued training in reclaiming swamps for the cultivation of rice and other food crops with the aim of achieving food self-sufficiency. A national master plan for swamp reclamation will also be supported. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,204,800 for experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Rural Engineering, Tourism and Environment. (BDI/87/011)

Morocco. A national masterplan for managing the disposal of liquid wastes -- and thus improving sanitation -- will be prepared under this project. Proposed UNDP contribution: $975,840 for a subcontract and support costs. Executed by the government and implemented by the Directorate of Local Communities, Ministry of Interior. (MOR/90/014)

Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka's forests are threatened by overexploitation due to a rising need for wood supply. Aimed at increasing availability of timber and safeguarding the environment, this project will strengthen the Forestry Department's management ability to carry out a work programme outlined in a masterplan. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,850,500 for experts, subcontract, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Lands, Irrigation Mahaweli Development and Up-Country Rehabilitation. (SRL/89/012)

Uganda. Aiming to rehabilitate agriculture in a country devastated by a decade of civil strife, this preparatory phase will undertake studies focussing on decentralizing government planning and co-ordinating roles in the agricultural sector. Proposed UNDP contribution: $285,400 for experts, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (UGA/89/003)

Viet Nam. The Mekong delta generates 40 per cent of Viet Nam's current agricultural output. But it offers further opportunities for increasing farm productivity and tapping rich natural resources. An integrated masterplan will be prepared for a sustainable and environmentally sound development of the delta. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,737,000 for experts, subcontracts, fellowships and equipment. Executed by the World Bank and implemented by the Mekong Secretariat, State Planning Committee. (VIE/87/031)

staff movements:

Gonzalo Pérez del Castillo was named Resident Representative in Bolivia, succeeding **Timothy Painter**. Mr. del Castillo, who was formerly Resident Representative in El Salvador, reported in La Paz on 14 January.

Johannes Swietering, previously Senior Planning and Co-ordination Officer at Headquarters, was designated as Resident Representative in Cyprus upon retirement of **Sean Finn** who is now temporarily posted as Officer-in-Charge in Cairo. Mr. Swietering arrived in Nicosia on 6 January.

Michael Heyn, formerly UNFPA Country Director in Nepal, was appointed Resident Representative in Liberia effective 5 January. Mr. Heyn succeeds **Francis Blain**.

A. Selvanathan, until recently Deputy Resident Representative in Indonesia, assumed the position of Chief, Programme Support Division, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific on 20 February.

Toshiyuki Niwa, previously Regional Representative in Bangkok, was named Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Finance and Administration, effective 16 March. Mr. Niwa succeeds **Douglas Stafford** who is now Deputy High Commissioner at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva.

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news and events

New York. Charles H. Larsimont, the outgoing UNDP Resident Representative in Mozambique, told at a press conference at the United Nations that $132 million is urgently needed to feed 1.6 million people displaced by guerrilla war in that southern African country. Mr. Larsimont was en route to a new assignment as Resident Representative in Bangladesh. He helped draft a report on the situation in Mozambique for the Secretary-General in preparation for an emergency fund-raising appeal scheduled to take place here on 26 April. The amount of food requested is "only enough for a survival diet, not even a working person's diet," Mr. Larsimont said. The modest target reflects realistic expectations: only 60 per cent of the $362 million sought last year was pledged by donor countries.

In addition to the funds needed for food, another $35 million is required just to transport it to isolated and war-ravaged locations by air, barge and truck. "Lack of security is our main concern," Mr. Larsimont said.

The last time his small plane taxied for take-off, it hit a land mine, and a new nose wheel assembly had to be flown into the small grass airstrip. "Without peace, the food emergency will not end, and with peace, it will be some time before adequate internal food supplies can be generated," Mr. Larsimont said. He added that Mozambique will require 500,000 to 600,000 tonnes of food donations annually over the next few years.

Jomtien. Speaking at the World Conference on Education for All that concluded here in March, UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III said that it is "within our reach today to be able to offer every child a primary school education before the turn of this century." The task is an exciting one, he said, but "is manageable only if we mobilize the necessary political will."

Mr. Draper outlined a four-point action plan to achieve this goal by the year 2000. It calls for the formulation of national human development strategies that include education as an integral component; preparation of financial plans by developing countries to achieve basic education for all over the next 10 years; internal restructuring of priorities in developing countries to release more resources for education; and, a global compact to ensure more external aid to help implement the education targets of developing countries.

More than 900 million people, or a quarter of the world's adult population, are unable to read or write, and at least 100 million children lack access to primary education. The Conference brought together over 1,200 government leaders, educators and representatives from international and non-governmental organizations to examine ways to wipe out illiteracy and improve the quality and availability of education worldwide.

Yamoussoukro. Representatives from 16 African countries, where *dracunculiasis* is endemic, gathered in this city in central Côte d'Ivoire on 28-30 March to assess progress in the eradication of the disease, commonly known as *Guinea worm*. They were joined by representatives of India and Pakistan and over two dozen bilateral, multilateral and private aid agencies. Organized by the World Health Organization with support from UNDP, UNICEF and Global 2000 (Carter Presidential Center), the Conference was aimed at updating surveillance of the disease throughout Africa and solidifying national action plans designed at making *Guinea worm* eradication an integral part of primary health care and water supply programmes.

Guinea worm afflicts more than 10 million people each year, mostly in Africa. The parasitic infection is caused by drinking unsafe water from village ponds, which are re-contaminated when victims wash their wounds. Stopping the cycle of infection can be achieved in many ways, including education in hygiene,

provision of new water supplies, water filtration and chemical treatment of ponds.

Last year, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter spearheaded a new international campaign, "Target 1995," aimed at eradicating the crippling disease in five years. It has gained the active support of UNICEF, UNDP, the U.S. Peace Corps, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and other donors. On 28 March in Atlanta, President Carter announced a major new development in that effort, the contribution by the American Cyanamid Company of $2.6 million of Abate (*temephos*), a chemical that kills the host of Guinea worm larvae when distributed in water. The donated Abate is expected to accelerate the eradication campaign.

Accepting the donation on behalf of Global 2000, President Carter said, "American Cyanamid has exhibited a new brand of corporate citizenship. This generous gift will be instrumental in ending the suffering of millions of people."

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7 March 1990

Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Acetic acid is a raw material widely used by textile producers and other industries. An earlier project phase demonstrated the cost-effective use of an inexpensive nickel-based catalyst in the conversion of methanol into acetic acid. A plant will be set up to assess the feasibility of expanding the manufacturing process into industrial scale. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,175,000 for chemists and other experts, subcontract and training. Executed by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and implemented by the Institute for Organic Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences. (DRK/87/003)

Niger. Eighty per cent of Niger's population lives in rural areas. Recurrent droughts, soil erosion and growing population are increasingly threatening agriculture and the environment. To improve land management in the rural districts of Anzourou and Dessa, the preparatory phase will carry out a survey on land-use, human capital, water resources, livestock and the environment. The resulting data will be used to draw up an integrated rural development project for the districts. Proposed UNDP contribution: $265,000 for consultants, equipment and training. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. (NER/89/003)

Niger. Protecting agricultural land against desertification is a high priority accorded by the government in an effort to achieve food self-sufficiency. This project aims to curb sand encroachment in southeast Ziner and Diffa areas. New agro-forestry techniques including sand dune fixation, controlled grazing, and watershed protection will be introduced through training and rural extension services. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2.5 million for experts, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Division of Environment. (NER/89/004)

Viet Nam. In support of the government's development plan for 1991-1995, UNDP will help to improve Viet Nam's transport sector. The project will finance a thorough review of the transport sector, and will subsequently prepare a programme for investment activities. Proposed UNDP contribution: $828,000 for a subcontract, training and equipment. Executed by the UN Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and implemented by the Ministry of Transport. (VIE/88/040)

Regional projects:

Africa. To reduce reliance on costly imported spare parts and equipment for the transport and telecommunications sectors, UNDP is helping African countries develop local manufacturing capacities. Experts will assess the operations of 12 industrial plants with the goal of rehabilitating poorly functioning ones, and expanding efficient production units to international scale. Proposed UNDP contribution: $976,615 for a subcontract, meetings and support costs. Executed by the Economic

Commission for Africa and implemented by government ministries on transport and industry. (RAF/89/050)

Asia and the Pacific. UNDP will continue to provide training to telecommunications workers in 14 island nations of the South Pacific in order to improve the sector's development. The project will also help stimulate investment opportunities in telecommunications, and collaboration with private enterprises. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1.2 million for experts, subcontract, training and equipment. Executed by the International Telecommunications Union and implemented by government telecommunications ministries. (RAS/89/079)

Latin America and the Caribbean. Aimed at revitalizing the economies of Caribbean countries, the Caribbean Project Development Facility was created in 1981 with support from UNDP to assist entrepreneurs in developing business ventures and in mobilizing financing. In recent years, the Facility's services were made available to Central American countries as well. To date, it has helped secure funding for 52 projects with an aggregate investment value of $120.4 million. This second phase will further strengthen the Facility's operations and promote entrepreneurship in the smaller eastern Caribbean countries. Proposed UNDP contribution: $500,000 for investment experts, travel and equipment. Executed by the World Bank/International Finance Corporation. (RLA/90/008)

28 February 1990

Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Industrial growth has brought a demand for testing instruments used to gauge the quality of chemicals required for a variety of industries. To date, most of these instruments have been imported. This project will assist the Institute of Experimental Instruments of the Academy of Sciences (IEI) in obtaining the capacity to develop this equipment for the DPRK, particularly high pressure liquid and gas chromatographs. Proposed UNDP contribution: $736,500 for a subcontract, training and personnel. Executed by UNIDO and implemented by the IEI. (DRK/87/002)

United Republic of Tanzania. This project aims to promote entrepreneurship to reduce unemployment in the urban areas resulting from restructuring of the public sector. Policy reforms will be introduced to boost the informal sector. Technical and managerial skills of entrepreneurs will be upgraded, and the Small Industry Development Organization will be strengthened. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,011,400, for personnel, training and equipment. Executed by the International Labour Organisation and implemented by the Ministry of Labour, Culture and Social Welfare. (URT/88/007)

Global projects:

Aiming to achieve food self-sufficiency in developing countries, the following global projects seek to strengthen the research and development capacities of various international institutions involved in agriculture and livestock. All projects are being jointly executed by the World Bank and UNDP.

CIYMMIT. This project aims to raise the production of wheat in sub-tropical developing countries. It will assist the International Centre for the Improvement of Maize and Wheat (CIYMMIT) in Mexico City in developing disease-resistant wheat strains that can grow in warmer climates and in regions with unfavourable environmental conditions. National wheat research programmes will be strengthened through training, fellowships and workshops. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,565,000 for breeders, agronomists, training, equipment and support costs. (GLO/90/001)

ICRISAT. To continue its successful work in the breeding of high-yielding varieties of sorghum and millet, the India-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) will receive continued UNDP support under this project. Specifically, the project will help the Institute improve its biotechnology crop improvement programme, which has benefited many semi-arid tropical countries. Proposed UNDP contribution: $6.7 million for scientists, researchers, training and equipment. (GLO/90/002)

CIYMMIT. This global project will strengthen CIYMMYT's research

capacity to produce high-quality and high-yielding maize cultivars that can withstand drought, low nitrogen and aluminium toxicity in acidic soils. Additionally, maize research programmes of participating countries will be linked with CIMMYT through fellowships and training. Proposed UNDP contribution: $6,609,000 for scientists, researchers and fellowships. (GLO/90/003)

ILRAD. UNDP will continue to support the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD), in Nairobi, which is working on a vaccine to control animal trypanosomiasis -- a fatal disease transmitted to livestock by the tsetse fly. Overcoming the disease could mean an additional 1.5 million tonnes of meat annually for Africa. The project will assist ILRAD in its vaccine work and in studying the genetic and molecular make-up of trypanosomes -- the parasites that cause the disease. Information will be transferred to global, regional and national organizations. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,050,000 for experts, fellowships, workshops and training. (GLO/90/004)

IFDC. Through a series of training workshops supported by UNDP, the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC) in Alabama will enhance the skills of scientists and policymakers responsible for decisions regarding the use of fertilizers in their respective countries. The project will also help spread information on potentially hazardous elements in fertilizers. Proposed UNDP contribution: $5.7 million for experts, training, research and equipment. (GLO/90/005)

ICIPE. To build on previous achievements, UNDP will continue to support research and training at the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi, which is developing control strategies for tsetse flies and ticks. Improved techniques for building tsetse fly traps and an anti-tick vaccine will be pursued, and training will be provided to scientists from developing countries. Proposed UNDP budget: $6.2 million for experts, fellowships, training and equipment. (GLO/90/006)

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news and events

Windhoek. UNDP's newest field office opened here last month, in a ceremony that coincided with other festivities marking Namibia's long awaited independence. This latest addition brings to 113 the number of UNDP field offices operating worldwide.

Speaking at the inaugural celebration in Windhoek, UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III said that a trust fund for Namibia -- established during a donors meeting in Oslo last September -- has received $4.5 million in pledges from Finland, Norway and Belgium. "We are all greatly indebted to these nations and wish to remind others that this fund remains available as a vehicle for resource mobilization," Mr. Draper said.

Of the amount pledged, $1.7 million has been earmarked for such sectors as health, education and civil aviation. Sixty UN Volunteers are already working in these areas, and more will be needed to compensate for South African manpower that has already begun leaving the country.

Mr. Draper has appointed David McAdams to be the first Resident Representative in Namibia. Mr. McAdams is a veteran senior officer and an Africa specialist for UNDP. He will help launch UNDP's first technical assistance programme for that country, which has been budgeted at $10.6 million for the next two years.

UNDP is also assisting the Namibian Government in organizing a donors conference to be held in June. A large number of countries, UN agencies and major non-governmental organizations are expected to attend. The new African nation has also requested UNDP's help in promoting private sector growth in collaboration with the New York-based Industry Council for Development.

Geneva. International donors, financial institutions and development assistance agencies expressed strong support for Mauritius at a recent donors conference here with a pledge of $65 million. Deputy Prime Minister Ghurburrun, who is also Minister of Economic Planning for Mauritius, chaired the meeting, which was sponsored by UNDP. Pierre-Claver Damiba, head of UNDP's Regional Bureau for Africa, co-chaired the event.

Referred to by the World Bank as a model of economic growth, Mauritius is en route to joining Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea as a "newly industrialized country." Excellent education and health systems, financial efficiency and a democratic political process have contributed to the country's recent economic boom, said Deputy Prime Minister Ghurburrun.

With rising sugar exports, increasing tourism and a strong private sector, the island country has doubled its GDP since 1983, largely eliminated unemployment, and successfully implemented a structural adjustment programme. But Mauritius faces a crossroads in its development path because of a growing shortage of skilled workers. The $65 million pledged by donors will help the government launch a human resources development plan, with the aim of reversing this trend.

During the 1987-91 period, UNDP is providing Mauritius nearly $5 million in technical assistance. This support is helping to diversify agricultural production, improve communications, industrial development and economic management.

Suva. UNDP was recently named by the Pacific Islands Monthly magazine as one of 10 most influential organizations or people that helped to shape the Pacific in the 1980s. "So unlike the regular donors to the region who look for political influence," the citation said, "UNDP gave without wanting anything back in return."

The magazine noted that UNDP's development programme reached the most remote outposts of the Pacific Islands. "It was not always involved in massive, multi-million dollar projects, but it was always there, building water tanks in Tuvalu or ice-making plants somewhere else," the citation read.

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21 March 1990

Afghanistan. UNDP will help to monitor and distribute in-kind contributions -- including seeds, fertilizers and machinery -- to war-torn areas in Afghanistan. The project will provide logistical and programme support for Operation Salam, and will establish regional sub-offices in Mazar-i-Sharif and Herat. Distribution centres will also be set up in rural areas. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2,217,000 for consultants, equipment, subcontracts and support costs. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services (UNDP/OPS). (AFG/90/A01)

Bangladesh. Agriculture is Bangladesh's economic mainstay, accounting for 70 per cent of total employment and 50 per cent of the country's GDP. To help increase productivity, UNDP will assist in improving irrigation and water resources management in the country's southwestern region. Experts will conduct hydrodynamic surveys of the area's river basins. This will set the stage for a water resources development plan and subsequent investment projects. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,687,000 for a subcontract and mission costs. Executed by the Asian Development Bank and implemented by the Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control. (BGD/88/038)

Chad. The government's Interministerial Bureau for Studies and Projects (BIEP), which was established in 1983 to promote rural development, will be upgraded under this project. UNDP will improve the Bureau's ability to carry out studies and evaluate projects. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,162,000 for experts, training and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture/BIEP. (CHD/89/006)

Malawi. The Malawian Entrepreneurship Development Institute (MEDI) was established in 1985 to develop technical and entrepreneurial skills. This follow-up project by UNDP will improve management and planning at the Institute, and will expand its entrepreneurial development programme. Emphasis will be placed on increasing the number of women involved in small businesses. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2 million for experts, training and equipment. Executed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and implemented by the Ministry of Labour/MEDI. (MLW/88/022)

Mozambique. Despite economic hardship brought on by years of civil strife, the forestry industry has achieved considerable growth in the last four years. To help the sector further improve, UNDP will upgrade the Forestry Engineering Department at the Eduardo Mondlane University. An advanced curriculum is expected to increase the calibre and number of forestry professionals. Proposed UNDP budget: $2,923,292 for personnel, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Eduardo Mondlane University. (MOZ/86/029)

Mozambique. To support the government's national reforestation programme, this extension project will upgrade the capabilities of personnel in the Directorate of Forestry so they can better formulate and introduce new forestry policies. Legislation is expected to protect existing forestry resources and generate new ones. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,262,913 for afforestation experts, management and inventory specialists, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (MOZ/86/003)

Zambia. Beekeepers in the North West Province will receive a boost from improved training and new equipment being provided under this project to North West Bee Products -- a parastatal entity responsible for processing and marketing honey and beeswax. Beekeepers associations will also be upgraded through training. Proposed UNDP contribution: $720,000 for consultants, training and equipment. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Integrated Rural Development Programme, Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives. (ZAM/88/B03)

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Global project

UNDP is supporting a global effort to reduce the incidence of death among children in developing countries due to acute respiratory infections. The effort will help develop new vaccines for infectious respiratory diseases that are untreatable by antibiotics or antivirals. It will also strengthen research capabilities in developing countries and promote improved health care and treatment. Proposed UNDP contribution: $6 million for a subcontract. Executed by the World Health Organization. (GLO/90/007)

14 March 1990

Afghanistan. To improve hospital sanitation and reduce health hazards, UNDP will construct new sewage treatment plants, upgrade kitchen and laundry facilities and supply new bedding for two hospitals in Kabul. It is expected that this improvement programme will later be replicated in other hospitals by the government and other donors. Proposed UNDP contribution: $797,300 for subcontracts, engineers and equipment. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Ministry of Public Health. (AFG/86/021)

Afghanistan. A huge shortage of crop seeds, compounded by a decade of war and rapid urbanization, has dealt a blow to farm yields in a country whose economy remains largely dependent on agriculture. Aiming to increase food production, UNDP will extend an earlier project designed to strengthen the Improved Seeds Enterprise (ISE). New processing, packaging and storage facilities are being introduced, and technicians and seed growers are being trained. Proposed UNDP contribution: $768,674 for seed specialists, United Nations Volunteers, equipment and training. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform through ISE. (AFG/86/010)

Angola. UNDP's Management Development Programme will assist the government in restructuring the public sector and in adopting crucial economic reforms. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,591,000 for advisers, training and equipment. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Ministries of Planning, Labor and Finance and the Secretariat of Council of Ministers. (ANG/89/020)

Bangladesh. To ensure a reliable supply of electricity, this project will expand the training programmes at the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and at five regional centres. A total of 150 instructors and over 2,000 BPDB staff are expected to benefit from courses in electrical generation, transmission and distribution. Additionally, manpower development policies will be established and curricula for training will become standardized. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3.4 million for consultants, training and equipment. Executed by the UN Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (UN/DTCD) and implemented by the BPDB. (BGD/89/011)

Burundi. The UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is supporting an integrated urban development effort in the country's fast growing capital city, Bujumbura, which is home for 75 per cent of the country's urban population. The project will help develop a 106-hectare site in Kanyosha, one of the city's main districts. Low-cost housing, a main road, drainage, a primary school and a marketplace will be built. A housing credit fund will also be established. Proposed UNCDF contribution: $1,654,243 for missions, subcontracts, a credit fund and support costs. Government executed and implemented by the Ministry of Public Works and Urban Development and the Ministry of Finance. (BDI/87/C05)

India. UNDP will assist the Department of Electronics (DOE) in developing and testing advanced integrated circuits needed by India's micro-electronic industry. Staff at a specialized centre within DOE will receive training and fellowships. They in turn will train technicians from 10 other electronics design centres and institutions. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2.5 million for a subcontract, scientists, training and equipment. Executed by the UN Industrial Development Organization and implemented by DOE. (IND/88/067)

Lesotho. UNDP's Management Development Programme will help

to improve public administration management and the efficiency of the country's civil service. A computerized personnel management information system will be developed for the Ministry of Public Service and staff training will take place. Proposed UNDP contribution: $905,930 for consultants, training and equipment. Executed by UN/DTCD and implemented by the Ministry of Public Service. (LES/89/003)

Mongolia. UNDP will help the government build an experimental solar energy plant. The facility will test the feasibility of photovoltaic production and generate 50 kilowatts-a-year. Subsequently, production could be expanded to commercial scale to meet the energy needs of rural areas. Proposed UNDP contribution: $778,000 for consultants, a subcontract, equipment and training. Executed by the United Nations and implemented by the Institute of Physics and Technology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences. (MON/86/006)

Somalia. To benefit the country's many refugees and displaced persons, UNDP will manage and provide logistical support for the UN's Extraordinary Interim Emergency Programme (EIEP). It will co-ordinate timely food shipments by plane to northern Somalia, and help to accelerate emergency operations. Proposed UNDP contribution: $792,000 for personnel, equipment and support costs. Third-party cost-sharing from the US Government: $395,400. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Interministerial Council on the Northwest. (SOM/90/023)

Sudan. UNDP will help develop environmentally sound techniques for increasing crop and livestock productivity in rainfed areas of Umm Kaddada, Idd El Gahanam, El Obeid, Lower Atbara and Central Butana. Experimental research activities will take place on small farms and involve the participation of local farmers. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2,586,080 for consultants, equipment and training. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. (SUD/88/022)

Regional project

Arab States. Aiming to modernize the telecommunications industry in Arab countries, UNDP will help form a regional network for telecommunications data and services. Network research centres will be established in Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia and Yemen. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1.4 million for experts, training and equipment. Executed by the International Telecommunications Union and implemented by government telecommunication ministries. (RAB/89/001)

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update

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news and events

London. Government leaders, representatives of UN agencies and NGOs attended a three-day summit here from 9 to 11 April to discuss international co-operation in combating drugs. The "World Ministerial Summit to Reduce Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat" was organized by the British Government and the United Nations. Augusto Ramírez-Ocampo, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, represented UNDP. Opening addresses were given by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar and Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas.

The meeting sought to increase the level of international commitment aimed at reducing demand for drugs, and to exchange expertise on drug reduction policies. Another objective was to find ways to lower cocaine consumption worldwide and combat its production and trafficking.

Addressing the participants, Mr. Ramírez-Ocampo said that while demand reduction is the primary goal of the war against drugs, it is also necessary to understand "the economics of drug production and its critical link to poverty and underdevelopment."

"UNDP is aware that to achieve drug eradication, concerted action will be required to design and implement a true alternative sustainable development strategy in producer countries," Mr. Ramírez-Ocampo said.

London. UNDP's *Human Development Report (1990)*, which ranks 130 countries according to a new human development index (HDI), will be released here on 24 May at a press conference sponsored by the Foreign Press Association.

The report rates the extent to which both rich and poor nations have met their peoples' most basic needs. The HDI takes into account infant mortality, literacy and longevity as well as purchasing power.

"High income alone is no guarantee of human development," says Mahbub ul Haq, the report's chief author, a senior advisor to UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III. "Success depends on how well countries manage growth in the interest of the broadest number of people."

In addition to ranking countries by their success in human development, the report:

--charts the gains and failures of development over the past 30 years, including the income and human development disparities between North and South, rich and poor, men and women, and urban and rural areas,

--offers alternative human development strategies for the 1990s for governments, international agencies and NGOs,

--highlights specific developing countries as examples of good human development models, and points out other countries which have diverted resources away from human development, especially for armaments.

The international team of economists and development specialists who prepared the Report under Mr. Haq's direction include Gustav Ranis, Amartya K. Sen, Frances Stewart, Meghnad Desai, Paul Streeten and Keith Griffin. More than 20 organizations of the United Nations system and member countries contributed to the Report, which is being published by Oxford University Press.

Suva. "Environmental Management and Sustainable Development in the South Pacific"

was the theme of a workshop that was hosted here in Fiji by UNDP from 17 to 21 April. It was co-sponsored by a number of UN agencies, including the UN Environment Programme, the UN Centre for Human Settlements and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Senior environmental officials of South Pacific governments, as well as NGO representatives, attended the five-day meeting.

Among the topics explored were the environmental impact of tourism in the South Pacific, the effects of industrial development on coastal and marine ecosystems, pollution and waste disposal, and strategies for promoting environmental management and education.

projects approved by the action committee

(all approvals subject to modification; sums quoted in US dollars)

4 April 1990

Afghanistan. Handicraft and cottage industries account for 85 per cent of Afghanistan's exports of non-agricultural manufactured goods. To boost competitiveness and efficiency, modern production and marketing techniques will be introduced to local *serais* -- handicraft centres where leather goods, knitwear, weavings, plastic and metal products are made. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,405,500 for an export promotion consultant, UN Volunteers (UNVs), equipment and study tours. Executed by the UN Industrial Development Organization and implemented by the Industrial Development Bank of Afghanistan. (AFG/85/018)

Burkina Faso. This second phase project will expand upon earlier achievements made in a national programme to improve forestry resources management in Ougadougou, the country's capital. The effort has engaged the participation of local community groups in programmes to increase the area's fuelwood. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2.1 million for forestry experts, training and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. (BKF/89/011)

Chad. UNDP is helping the government develop environmentally sound plant protection strategies in order to safeguard harvests from disease and pests. Proposed UNDP budget: $4,491,608, of which $4 million represents third-party cost-sharing from the Netherlands. Funds to be used for experts, equipment, training and subcontracts. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development/Department for Plant Protection Services. (CHD/88/001)

India. UNDP will help the government increase oil yields by assisting the Institute of Reservoir Studies (IRS). The project will introduce advanced techniques in well stimulation and reservoir engineering. It will also monitor various pilot activities and gauge their impact on oil field production through computer simulations. Total UNDP budget: $3,732,000, of which $1.5 million represents government cost-sharing. Funds to be used for a subcontract, consultants, equipment and study tours. Executed by the UN Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and implemented by the IRS. (IND/88/030)

Indonesia. UNDP will assist the Directorate General of Air Communications (DGAC) in improving aviation safety. The project will help shape national standards for the supervision and maintenance of telecommunications equipment and navigational aids of the country's air transport system. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,999,300 for aviation experts, engineers, training and equipment. Executed by the International Civil Aviation Organization and implemented by the DGAC. (INS/88/002)

Tunisia. Recent floods resulting from torrential rains caused severe damage in central and southern Tunisia. Under the project UNDP is funding the repair of some 100 water wells in the rural area of Zafzaf. Assistance will ensure a

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reliable water supply for drinking and irrigation. Proposed UNDP contribution: $200,000 for a subcontract and equipment. Executed by the Government and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (TUN/90/002)

28 March 1990

Argentina. To reverse the alarming rate of depopulation of Corebe, a large rural region, UNDP is helping the government implement an integrated development strategy in the provinces of Salta, Jujuy, Formosa, Santa Fe and Santiago del Estero. The broad effort follows the positive results that have occurred in Chaco province, where a planning unit was established and programmes created to stimulate agricultural and forestry development. Government cost-sharing of $1,853,100 will be used for experts, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Bermejo River Regional Commission. (ARG/85/017)

Bhutan. Horticulture offers a large potential for increasing rural incomes and export revenues. Under this project a horticulture unit will be created within the Ministry of Agriculture which will increase the production of various cash crops. Bhutanese horticulturists will receive training in crop productivity techniques. Packaging and grading systems will also be improved, and marketing studies will be conducted to gauge local demand and export potential in South Asia. Proposed UNDP contribution: $988,200 for consultants, equipment, training and a subcontract. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (BHU/87/016)

Burkina Faso. To support the government's battle against desertification, the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) will help devise a natural resources management plan for Séno Province, which is prone to irregular rainfall and recurrent droughts. Emphasis will be placed on improved range management and agro-forestry techniques, soil conservation and small-scale irrigation. Proposed UNSO budget of $6,435,500 provided through a trust fund from the Government of Denmark. Funds to be used for consultants, equipment, subcontract and training. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services (UNDP/OPS) and implemented by the Ministry of Planning and Co-operation. (BKF/90/X01)

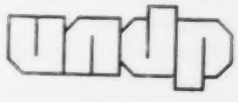
Mozambique. Mozambique's rich fishery resources are a major source of export earnings. Training in fish inspection and quality control is the focus of UNDP assistance which will boost the industry's competitiveness and also reduce the country's reliance on foreign experts. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,203,919 for consultants, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the State Secretariat for Fisheries. (MOZ/86/030)

Niger. UNSO assistance will continue to fight environmental degradation in the Dosso District by promoting improved land-use management and community participation in new agro-forestry activities. Tree nurseries will be established in 80 villages and 9,000 hectares of multi-purpose plantations will be created. Village development funds will also be established. Proposed UNSO budget of $1,980,230 made available through a Swedish trust fund. Funds to be used for UNVs, experts, training and equipment. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Ministry of Water and Environment. (NER/90/X01)

staff movements

Erling Dessau was designated Resident Representative in India upon retirement of **Gamil Hamdy.** Prior to his appointment on 2 March, Mr. Dessau was Resident Representative in Bangladesh. **Charles Larsimont,** previously Resident Representative in Mozambique, succeeds Mr. Dessau in Bangladesh on 27 March.

Robert England, previously Chief of the Budget Section in the Division of Finance, was appointed Resident Representative in Sri Lanka, effective 3 March. Mr. England succeeds **Bhekh Thapa** who assumed a new post as UNV Senior Officer in Switzerland.



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update

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news and events

Washington, D.C. Speaking here at the Third International Shelter Conference on 27 April, UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III called for new global strategies to provide shelter and basic services in the world's cities. "Low-interest loans are much more valuable to struggling families than promises from the government housing authority," Mr. Draper said.

Mr. Draper's proposals were based on recommendations from UNDP's first annual *Human Development Report (1990)*, which is scheduled for release on 24 May in London. The *Report*, prepared by prominent development economists, ranks 130 countries by their success in meeting human development goals.

Urbanization is treated at length in the *Report*, from which Mr. Draper cited four main policy issues critical to the effective management of cities. They are:

-- Decision-making must be decentralized to bring power and resources into the hands of local governments and community groups.

-- Cities must be given authority to exploit local revenue bases more effectively. Many national governments, such as those of Nepal and Indonesia, are now adopting such policies with help from UNDP.

-- Community support and political will must be mobilized to assure the careful disposal of human and industrial waste and the clean-up of water and air. Low-cost, appropriate technologies are available.

-- New housing plans are needed. Land and loans for homebuilding must be made available.

A successful urban strategy requires "a radical shift in thinking," Mr. Draper added. "The informal sector, which is sometimes unconsciously viewed by authorities as a subversive element of society, is in reality the backbone of the urban economy."

UNDP, along with the UN Capital Development Fund, which it administers, supports 262 human settlement projects. In 1988 alone, investment commitments of over $2 billion resulted from projects in this sector.

Together with the World Bank and the UN Centre for Human Settlements, UNDP has formed a global "think-tank" to produce practical guidelines for governments on such issues as improved administration of land management, infrastructure planning, municipal finance and the urban environment. The Governments of Denmark, France, Germany and the United Kingdom are participating.

New York. On 19 April Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero met here with UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III and Augusto Ramírez-Ocampo, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, to discuss a number of development issues facing the Central American country.

A technical assistance project budgeted at $343,000 for improving public administration in Honduras was signed at the meeting. It is part of a larger $1 million Management Development Programme for that country which was recently approved by UNDP's Action Committee.

Also discussed was the need for UNDP support in helping the Honduran Government repatriate Nicaraguan refugees, the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America and ways to alleviate the country's $270 million foreign debt.

New York. UNDP and the UNA-USA have announced the three winners in the fifth annual National High School Essay Contest on the UN. The competition challenged students

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to put themselves in the shoes of UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar and prepare a report on the UN's work to safeguard the global environment. Over 1,000 students participated.

The winners are Nancy Hiemstra from Fayetteville-Manlius High School in New York, Lily Chinn from Huntington Beach High School in California, and Jay Kim from Laguna Hills High School in California.

Essays by ten finalists were judged by a panel of experts which included UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III, Thomas Pickering, US Permanent Representative to the UN and Ronald Spiers, UN Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs.

The three winners and their teachers will be flown to New York for UNA-USA's Annual Inaugural Ball on 22 May where they will receive cash awards ranging from $500 to $1,000. Certificates of merit will be presented by Mr. Draper during a special awards ceremony where they will also meet with the UN Secretary-General. In July, Garuda Indonesia Airlines will fly Ms. Hiemstra, the first-prize winner, to Indonesia to visit UNDP projects in the field.

projects approved by the action committee

18 April 1990

Kenya. Aiming to expand on agricultural advances made in arid and semi-arid lands during a previous phase, UNDP will continue to refine farming technologies and livestock management on 24 test farms. Through the provision of fellowships and training, the National Dryland Farming Research Centre will improve its capabilities in plant breeding, agronomy, animal production and agricultural economics. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,017,600 for a plant breeding expert, agronomists, training and equipment. Government executed and implemented by the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute. (KEN/89/015)

Senegal. The UN Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) will help promote afforestation and fight environmental degradation in the areas of Louga, Bakel and Mbaké. Conservation and land-use measures will be carried out in villages with the goal of increasing vegetation cover while also meeting local needs for forestry products. Proposed UNSO budget: $2,475,760 -- provided by a Swedish trust fund -- for experts, training, equipment and subcontracts. Government executed in co-operation with UNDP's Office for Project Services (OPS) and implemented by the Ministry for the Protection of Nature. (SEN/89/X08)

Uganda. A national census on agriculture and livestock will be carried out under this project revision. UNDP will also help put in place an information system containing data on agricultural lands, crops, machinery and farm labour. Proposed UNDP contribution: $993,400 for statisticians, training and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (UGA/88/002)

United Republic of Tanzania. The project aims to improve Tanzania's air transport system by providing experts who will draw up a civil aviation master plan and help the country adapt new aviation technologies. Training programmes will be carried out on airworthiness, flight operations, fire fighting techniques and on aviation and radar management. UNDP contribution: $677,507 for engineers, training and equipment. Executed by the International Civil Aviation Organization and implemented by the Ministry of Works and Communication. (URT/86/030)

Viet Nam. A stone processing plant for marble and granite will be established in Nghe Tinh where large mineral deposits are located. Small-scale quarrying industries will receive new equipment and

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training to foster economic and industrial growth in one of Viet Nam's poorest provinces. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,014,000 for engineers, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and implemented by the People's Provincial Committee. (VIE/89/027)

11 April 1990

Bangladesh. As part of the Government's crop diversification programme, UNDP will help support horticulture development in an effort to increase food security and improve nutrition among the country's population. An estimated 1,600 horticultural personnel at three national institutions will receive advanced training. Thousands of growers, traders and wholesalers will also benefit from training courses in marketing and production techniques. Proposed UNDP contribution: $3,225,000 for experts, training and equipment. Executed by the Asian Development Bank in association with FAO. Implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. (BGD/87/025)

Ghana. Only 40 per cent of Ghana's rural population has access to safe drinking water and only 15 per cent have proper sanitation services, contributing to high infant mortality rates and Guinea Worm infestation. To improve water supply and sanitation here, UNDP will assist 125 villages in Ghana's eastern region. Community management systems for water supply and sanitation will be created, boreholes will be drilled, handpumps installed and maintenance and health education programmes established. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,032,000 for a community development specialist, consultants, subcontracts, equipment and training. Third-party cost-sharing from the Netherlands: $885,000. Government executed and implemented by the Ghana Water and Sewerage Corporation. (GHA/88/017)

Kenya. The Ministry of Technical Training and Applied Technology will be assisted under this project in order to create employment opportunities for young people. Training programmes will demonstrate how to set up a small business and a credit scheme will be created to help new entrepreneurs start out. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2,255,000 for personnel, training, equipment and a revolving fund. Government counter-part budget: $2,394,918. Executed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and implemented by the Ministry of Technical Training and Applied Technology. (KEN/89/014)

Zaire. UNDP will help the government safeguard the environment and fight desertification by launching community-based conservation programmes. These will involve villagers in protecting forests, soil, water and other natural resources. Work will initially take place at six test sites. Non-governmental organizations will be invited to participate, and a credit fund will be established to support reforestation activities. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,864,250 for a community development specialist, experts, subcontracts, a revolving fund, training and equipment. Executed by UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation. (ZAI/86/006)

Zaire. UNDP will help create income-generating opportunities for families living in the poorest districts of Kinshasa, employing them in programmes designed to improve the capital city's infrastructure. This includes rehabilitation of roads, streets, bridges, sewers and retaining walls. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,869,400 for a sociologist, municipal services expert, UN Volunteers (UNVs), subcontracts, equipment and training. Jointly executed by ILO and the UN Centre for Human Settlements. Implemented by the Kinshasa Municipality in association with the Department of Public Works/City Planning Office. (ZAI/88/001)

Zaire. With the aim of increasing the productivity of the fishery sector, UNDP will help the Government implement a new master plan for the industry.

Fishery personnel will receive training in increasing yields, processing, marketing and resource conservation. Socio-economic surveys will be carried out in fishing communities. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2,520,735 for experts, UNVs, training and fishing equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation. (ZAI/88/002)

Zaire. Slowing the rural exodus to cities and improving the socio-economic conditions of villages are the goals of this project. Improved agricultural techniques and equipment will be made available to small farmers in five regions in order to raise productivity and income levels. Proposed UNDP contribution: $4,286,800 for experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Department of Rural Development. (ZAI/88/006)

Zaire. UNDP will help increase rice yields by providing technical support to the National Rice Program, a government entity responsible for managing the rice improvement effort. The agency will be reorganized under this project and new agricultural machinery will be procured to improve seed farms. Proposed UNDP contribution: $5 million for agricultural experts, UNVs, farm equipment and training. Executed by FAO and implemented by the Department of Agriculture. (ZAI/88/008)

Zaire. UNDP will assist the government in restructuring and improving the National Institute for Agricultural Research (INERA). The Institute was once a leading centre in the field of tropical agriculture until economic hardships forced it to halt many research activities. The project will help the Institute manage staff, finances and maintenance programmes. It will also establish technical exchanges with other agricultural research institutions in Africa. Proposed UNDP contribution: $9,812,000 for agricultural research experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Implemented by the INERA/Department of Higher Education, Universities and Scientific Research. (ZAI/89/006)

Zaire. This project is designed to spur economic growth by promoting entrepreneurship. It will provide policy advice at the national level to overcome bureaucratic impediments, identify and train national consulting firms in several regions. It will also support 125 existing or potential entrepreneurs through training and access to credit. Proposed UNDP contribution: $4,705,406 for consultants, subcontracts, a revolving fund, training and equipment. Executed by UNIDO and implemented by the Department of Economy and Industry. (ZAI/89/008)

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update

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news and events

Warsaw. During his recent tour of six countries in central and eastern Europe, UNDP Administrator William H. Draper III met with high-level government officials in Poland and signed a memorandum of understanding that identifies future areas of UNDP co-operation. Development needs in virtually every sector of Poland's economy have taken on a pressing urgency in the wake of recent political and economic reforms, and the government's partnership with UNDP is to be heightened with the opening of a new liaison office here later this year. Poland hopes to increase the number of development projects in the near future and to attract co-financing from other donors.

Poland's Indicative Planning Figure currently stands at $4.3 million for the period 1987-1991. National priorities stressed during Mr. Draper's visit include management, privatization, foreign investment, environment, energy, transportation, social policy and telecommunications.

While in Warsaw, the Administrator met with President Wojciech Jaruzelski and Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. Following his visit Mr. Draper continued his European tour and had discussions with government leaders in Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia.

Cairo. The roles of Arab women in food security and industry were among the topics discussed at a regional conference here entitled "Socio-economic Challenges for the 1990s: Arab Women's Contribution to Development." The meeting, which took place from 20 to 23 May, was sponsored by UNDP and co-organized by the League of Arab States and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

Scheduled to participate were Susan Mubarak, Egypt's First Lady, who was expected to deliver the keynote speech, Princess Basma Bint Talal of Jordan, government officials from Arab countries and representatives from research institutions and international organizations. Dr. Mohamed A. Nour, Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe, represented UNDP.

Participants explored ways to help Arab women deal with their dual objectives of raising families and of being equal beneficiaries and partners in development programmes. The agenda covered such topics as women's employment opportunities, access to legal protection, the role of NGOs and the transfer of modern technology to rural areas.

Caracas. Government officials from 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries gathered here on 10-11 May to discuss regional priorities for UNDP technical assistance during the next programming cycle (1992-1996). Augusto Ramírez-Ocampo, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, represented UNDP at the meeting. Participants strongly endorsed the recommendations previously made for the region in its mid-term review.

The six priority areas that were underscored for UNDP co-operation in the next four-year assistance period are: social development and alleviation of critical poverty; reform and modernization of the public sector; science and technology; economic and financial management; trade expansion and the environment.

projects approved by the action committee

(all approvals subject to modification; sums quoted in US dollars)

2 May 1990

Bangladesh. The country's western region will receive planning support from UNDP for developing fisheries and

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promoting shrimp culture in coastal areas. The project will demonstrate the feasibility of cultivating fish in the country's floodplains and organizing fishermen into groups for better access to credit and training programmes. Proposed UNDP contribution: $4,344,200 for a subcontract and training. Executed by the World Bank and implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. (BGD/88/065)

Benin. Economists made available through UNDP will help devise macro-economic policies as part of the country's economic reform programme. Total UNDP budget: $700,000 for an economist, consultants, subcontract and equipment. Executed by UNDP's Office for Project Services (OPS) and implemented by the Ministry of Planning. (BEN/87/023)

Lao PDR. UNDP will assist the government in promoting fish farming in order to increase animal protein supply in ten districts for 580,000 inhabitants. Farmers will receive financial assistance, fish farm supplies and training in new aquaculture techniques. One hundred and sixty test sites will be set up. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,031,300 for consultants, UN Volunteers, training and equipment. Executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. (LAO/89/003)

Nepal. To expedite its development work, the government has adopted a decentralization policy to speed the formulation and implementation of projects. UNDP will assist local authorities in six districts in adopting a comprehensive training and management programme to address and identify problem areas. It is anticipated that the programme will eventually be implemented nationwide. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,132,300 for consultants, subcontract, training and equipment. Executed by the World Bank and implemented by the Ministry of Panchayat and Local Development. (NEP/88/015)

Nigeria. To promote employment opportunities, Industrial Development Centres in Oyo, Owerri and Zaria states will be upgraded so they can better assist small and medium-sized businesses in improving productivity and product quality. The Centres' maintenance and repair facilities will be improved and new industrial services in such areas as design, metal works, and the manufacture of food processing equipment will be introduced. Proposed UNDP budget: $2,860,650, of which $600,000 represents funds from the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Funds are to be used for experts, training and equipment. Executed by UNIDO and implemented by the Federal Ministry of Industries. (NIR/87/015)

Pakistan. Modernizing Pakistan's Central Testing Laboratories (CTL) in Karachi and Lahore is the focus of UNDP assistance to help ensure quality control of locally manufactured goods. New equipment will be provided along with advanced training for technical staff. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,442,605 for experts, equipment, subcontract and training. Executed by UNIDO and implemented by the CTL, Ministry of Industries. (PAK/88/040)

Saudi Arabia. UNDP will provide management training services and policy advice to the Ministry of Industry and Electricity (MIE) in order to increase its efficiency and ability to carry out industrial development programmes. Proposed UNDP contribution: $1,638,176 for an industrial economist, consultants, training and equipment. Executed by UNIDO and implemented by the MIE. (SAU/89/022)

Sri Lanka. The UN Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE) will help the government search for such heavy minerals as monazite, ilmenite and zircon in the Beruwala and Devinuwara areas of the country's southern region. Proposed UNRFNRE contribution: $360,000 for a geologist, subcontract and equipment. Executed by UNRFNRE. (SRL/88/N01)

Sudan. Vocational training and service centres will be established in Darfur and Kordofan in order to give people the skills they need to find jobs and start small businesses. Workshops will focus on auto repair, welding and carpentry. Outreach training activities will also be offered by mobile units which will visit more distant and isolated areas. Proposed UNDP contributions: $2,405,671 for Darfur; $2,950,162 for Kordofan. Funds are to be used for rural industrial experts, subcontracts, training and equipment. Executed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and implemented by the Ministry of Labour. (SUD/88/025-SUD/88/026)

Sudan. UNDP will assist the government in pursuing a

community-based approach to managing the country's development activities by creating "area development schemes" in South Darfur, North Darfur, and the Sudan's northern and eastern regions. The project will give planning and management support to local councils in such areas as farming, animal husbandry, rangeland management, reforestation and entrepreneurship. Proposed UNDP contributions: $5,606,670 for South Darfur; $4,356,105 for North Darfur; $4,421,115 for the northern region; $2,759,412 for the eastern region. Funds will be used for consultants, subcontracts, equipment, training and revolving funds. Executed by ILO in association with UNDP/OPS and implemented by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. (SUD/90/003-SUD/90/006)

Viet Nam. In light of recent economic reforms designed to decentralize the economy and open it to market forces, the government has sought UNDP assistance in ensuring fiscal stability during a period of change. The project will provide advisory services and training of government staff in fiscal policy, budgetary planning and management, and monitoring of public enterprises. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2,013,750 for consultants, training and equipment. Executed by the International Monetary Fund and implemented by the Ministry of Finance. (VIE/90/005)

Regional project:

Africa. The project will encourage the development of small and medium-sized enterprises across the continent by assisting the many private sector associations which represent and assist African businessmen and women. The associations will receive support in such areas as negotiating policies with government authorities, business expansion and in setting up an information services network. Proposed UNDP contribution for this second phase: $1,067,000 for consultants, subcontracts, training and equipment. Third-party cost-sharing from the UN Development Fund for Women: $60,000. Executed by ILO and implemented by government ministries on trade development. (RAF/87/145)

Africa. To increase food security and rice production in West Africa, UNDP will assist the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) by offering advanced training courses to 465 rice technologists from 19 countries. The courses will cover rice agronomy, water and irrigation management, computer applications in rice research, crop protection and development of training materials. The project will also seek to improve the quality of technical information on rice production techniques and help pass it on to researchers throughout the region. Proposed UNDP contribution: $2.8 million for personnel, training, equipment and operational costs. Government executed and implemented by WARDA. (RAF/89/055)

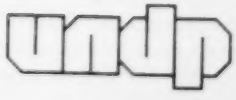
staff movements

David J. Whaley was appointed Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe on 1 May. Starting as a Junior Professional Officer in Gabon in 1968, he has since held various field posts including assignments as Resident Representative in Benin and Algeria. From 1988 until his recent appointment, he was on secondment to the United Nations as Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation.

Peter M. Leslie was appointed Director of the Division of Finance, following the assignment of **Douglas Stafford** as Deputy High Commissioner at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. Prior to his appointment on 16 May, Mr. Leslie was Chief Financial Officer of the V Band Corporation, an electronics company in Elmsford, New York.

David E. Joel has been named Director of the Division of Management Information Services, upon reassignment of **Lynn Wallis** as Resident Representative in Ghana. Mr. Joel, who will assume his new duties on 1 July, was Assistant Vice-President in Business Systems from 1981 to 1988 at Northern Telecom Electronics in Canada.

Peter Simkin was named Resident Representative in Mozambique upon reassignment of **Charles Larsimont** to Bangladesh. Since 1972 Mr. Simkin has served the World Food Programme (WFP), both at its headquarters in Rome and in the field. He was WPF's Area Director for Southern Africa and Director of Operations in Zimbabwe until his UNDP appointment on 23 March.



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